11. Setting up of a body for financing higher education (suggested name-Higher Education Finance corporation) for coordinating the student loan scheme of several banks as also to provide soft loan and scholarship by itself.

12. Restrictions in starting of self-financing courses.

13. Discouraging the programmes courses requiring laboratory and extensive library based courses through distance mode.

14. Stronger and effective linkages with industry.

15. Motivating philanthropic contribution and donations.

16. Check on the growth of private higher education with proper regulations to curb the tendencies of profit making and ensure quality education.

17. Regulating entry of foreign universities.

18. Proper allocation of the resources for academics activities, administration, maintenance and auxiliary services.

19. Building up a strong database on higher education.

**Review of National Curriculum Framework**

1470. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NCERT has set in motion an elaborate exercise to review the National Curriculam Framework (NCF);

(b) if so, what were the recommendations of a three member panel of historians assigned the task of undertaking a quick review of the history books brought out by the previous regime;

(c) by when it would wrap up the exercise; and

(d) the suggestions/recommendations of the Yashpal Committee Report in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The medium and long term recommendations of the panel of historians were that:

(i) the textbooks prepared since 2000 were so full of errors and substandard that it was impossible to recommend their continuation.

(ii) the preparation of textbooks should be entrusted to the collective efforts of teams of scholars, guided by expert panels, and

(iii) sound, secular and accurate textbooks should be prepared.

As per the mandate of the National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986, the NCERT undertakes the review of the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) periodically. Accordingly the NCERT set up of the National Steering Committee in 2004 under the chairmanship of Prof. Yashpal to review the NCF 2000. The Committee has submitted the draft National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2005.

(d) The salient features of the NCF 2005 are:

(I) It has based on the following four guiding principles:—

(i) Connecting knowledge of life outside the school,

(ii) Ensuring that learning shifts away from rote methods,

(iii) Enriching the curriculum so that it goes beyond textbooks,

(iv) Making examinations more flexible.

(II) The NCF also focuses on the child as an active learner, thus giving primacy to the children's experiences, their voices and their participation. It views children as active participants in the construction of knowledge, and states that schools should recognize the innate ability and creativity of each child to construct his/her own knowledge.

(III) It recommends the softening of subject boundaries so that children can get a taste of integrated knowledge and joy of understanding.

(IV) It reaffirms faith in panchayati raj institutions to enable people to think, decide and act in their collective interest, to provide greater participation of people in development.

(V) It also makes a renewed attempt to implement the Three Language Formula, emphasizing mother tongue as a medium of instruction including tribal languages.

**Assistance to voluntary organisations**

1471. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed by Government for providing assistance to the voluntary organizations engaged in the welfare and education of women and children;

(b) the amount released to such NGOs during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details the mother NGOs/agencies monitoring these schemes;

(d) whether the working of these NGOs has been satisfactory so far; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The basic criteria used for selection of NGOs and other agencies for operating the programmes of Department of Women and Child Development include the following:

(i) Registered under one of the relevant statutory acts;

(ii) In existence for a period of at least three years after registration;

(iii) Have audited statements of Accounts for last three years;

(iv) Financial soundness of Implementing Agency;

(v) Recommendation of State Governments/State Level Empowered Committees constituted for the purpose;

(vi) Facilities, resources, personnel, managerial skill and experience in the relevant field.